(e) The following steps are taken to improve the delivery of Speed Post Service:

* Delivery norms are prescribed and monitored.
* Dedicated delivery staffs are engaged exclusively for Speed Post delivery.
* In order to quicken the delivery of Speed Post Article, delivery staffs in few cities have been provided with mopeds.
* Track & Trace facility is provided through Speednet to enable the customer to find out the status of Speed Post Article.
* Same day delivery of local Speed Post Articles at all-important towns.
* Increase in Speed Post delivery staff where justified.
* Increase in nodal delivery offices wherever justified.
* Bulk delivery and delivery of big parcels is undertaken centrally from Speed Post Centres through special conveyance in Metros.
* Regular monitoring at different levels to ensure efficient delivery service.

Market share of mobile phones in A.P.

3069. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of BSNL mobile phones in operation in Andhra Pradesh as on 31st March, 2007;

(b) whether it is a fact that BSNL is not actively trying to improve market share in Andhra Pradesh for mobile phones;

(c) the promotional steps which BSNL propose to maintain its market share;

(d) whether it is also a fact that BSNL is not properly implementing its charges on actual bills; and

(e) the steps proposed to ensure that customers get benefits of announced discounts and lower roaming charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) 18,46,646 BSNL mobile connections were working as on 31-03-2007 in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) No, Sir. To maintain the market share of BSNL, tariffs are being reviewed from time to time and at present, the rates offered by BSNL are most competitive and affordable for the customer. In addition to above, field units are also authorized to offer different promotional tariffs taking into account the local market conditions.

(c) As a promotional measure, BSNL has introduced plan-103 for post paid customers with outgoing call rate of Rs. 0.50 per min. w.e.f. 16-11-2006. In the pre-paid segment, Excel Platinum, Gold and Silver offers have been launched w.e.f. January 2007 where the prepaid subscriber can make a outgoing calls @ Rs. 0.40 and SMS @ one Paise per message. Full Talk Time and 25% extra talk time were offered on all recharge coupons during the festival sessons.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Andhra Pradesh Circle is implementing the discounts announced by BSNL in time, so as to pass on the benefits to all GSM customers without any delay.

Registry for blocking telemarketing calls

3070. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether to save the telephone subsribers from the nuisance and harassment caused by telemarketing calls, Government have proposed to establish a registry to provide for blocking of such calls by telecom operators;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the registry would become operational and whether TRAI could impose financial penalties on violators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c)